

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Guillermo J. TEARNEY et al.
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Kindly amend the above-identified application before examination and calculation
of the filing fee as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 41-74, 76-108 and 110-145, without prejudice, as provided
herein below. In addition, please amend claims 3 and 4, as provided herein below. The status of
the pending claims and listing of the new claims are provided as follows, on separate sheets: